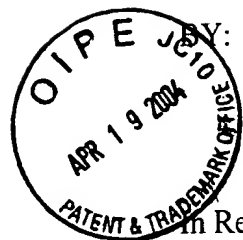


I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-1450, ON THE DATE INDICATED BELOW.



BY:

Kelly Spence

Date:

4/16/2004

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

RECEIVED

In Re Patent Application of:
Beutler et al.

APR 20 2004

Technology Center 2600

Conf. No.: 8701

: Group Art Unit: 2643

Appln. No.: 09/862,689

: Examiner: Alexander Jamal

Filing Date: May 21, 2001

: Attorney Docket No.: 044368.0348

Title: CIRCUIT BOARD CAPACITOR STRUCTURE FOR FORMING A HIGH
VOLTAGE ISOLATION BARRIER

**DECLARATION OF PRIOR INVENTION
TO OVERCOME CITED PATENT (37 CFR § 1.131)**

PURPOSE OF DECLARATION

This declaration is to establish completion of the invention in this application in the United States at a date prior to January 29, 1998, which is the effective date of the prior art U.S. Patent No. 6,137,671 (Staffiere), which was cited and applied by the Examiner.

The persons making this declaration are the inventors, and are thus qualified to submit this declaration under 37 CFR § 1.131.

FACTS AND SUPPORTING STATEMENTS

To establish the date of completion of the invention of this patent application, the following facts and supporting statements are submitted as evidence:

Supporting statements

1. An experimental printed circuit board, part number TW00-D595-001, was fabricated in January 1998 to prove that a capacitor can be built into a printed circuit board using adjacent conductive layers separated by an insulating layer so as to be used as a digital isolation barrier.
2. The date of conception for the experimental printed circuit board, part number TW00-D595-001, was sometime in December 1997.

From the attached supporting statements, we submit that it has been established that the invention in this application was made prior to January 29, 1998, which is the effective date of the prior art U.S. Patent U.S. Patent No. 6,137,671 (Staffiere).

TIME OF PRESENTATION OF THE DECLARATION

This declaration is submitted prior to final rejection.

DECLARATION

As a person signing below:

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

SIGNATURES

Full name of first

joint inventor Thomas Grey Beutler

Inventor's Signature Thomas Grey Beutler

Date April 8, 2004.

Residence Tustin, California

Citizenship United States of America

Post Office Address 15732 Myrtle Avenue, Tustin, California 92780

Full name of second joint

inventor Raphael Rahamim

Inventor's Signature R. M.

Date 4.9.04

Residence Orange, California

Citizenship United States of America

Post Office Address 2717 North Vista Court, Orange, California 92687